

# **IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday January 14th 2001**

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## **HF SSB Field Day Results**

Taking first place in the open section of the HF SSB Field Day held on the 2nd and 3rd of September last was East Cork Radio Group EI7M with 1220 QSO's totalling 808,808 points. The station was operated by EI4BZ, EI8GS and EI8IR. In second place was North Dublin Radio Group using the callsign EI2MM with 214 QSO's and 36,880 points. EI2MM was operated by EI4FV, EI6EQB and EI1399.

The restricted section saw the Mayo Radio Experimenters Network take first place using the call sign EI2K with a total of 434 QSO's and 139,938 points. EI2K was operated by EI5IX, EI6FWB, EI7IX and EI4GD. In second place was Cork Radio Club EI5CRC with a total of 216 QSO's and 61,344 points. EI5CRC was operated by EI5GM, EI1CS and EI9ID. Well done to all who took part.

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## **Ian Morris Memorial Trophy**

The Ian Morris Memorial Trophy is presented at the IRTS AGM each year to the short-wave listener who has the most DXCC entities confirmed during the previous year. The closing date for entries is April the 1st 2001.

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## **Rally News**

The Phoenix Radio Rally will take place in Coolmine Community School, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 on Sunday, February the 4th. Doors open at 11.00 am and the entrance fee is £2. For further details contact Tom EI2AJ at 01-8211043.

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## **IRTS Committee Meeting**

The next committee meeting of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society will take place at 11.00 am on Saturday the 20th of January in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Athlone.

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## **South Eastern Amateur Radio Group**

The Annual General Meeting of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Wednesday the 31st of January 2001 at 8.00pm in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford. All members are asked to attend and visitors as always are very welcome.

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## **Space News**

It has been reported that a small leak on board AO-40 could account for the higher spin rate ground controllers have noticed since the satellite resumed telemetry transmissions on Christmas Day. However the satellite seems to be in a very stable condition, and there are no signs of further damage. Ground controllers continue to look into the reason for the higher spin rate as well as other items under investigation and the results will be reported when the AO-40 team reaches its final conclusions.

It has been suggested that the team has the antenna situation under control and they may attempt to get the 2 metre and 70 cm transmitters working soon. Once this work is completed and AMSAT has a complete overview they can then declare the spacecraft working normally or possibly re-define the mission of AO-40.

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## **2 metre Transatlantic Beacon**

Members of the North East Weak Signal Group (NEWS) are currently rebuilding the Trans-Atlantic beacon. It is expected that the beacon will return on the air during early spring of 2001 from its location in Rhode Island, on 144.282 MHz.

Several members of the group are interested in accomplishing the feat of a 2 metre contact between Europe to the US.

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## **DX News**

Start looking for Alan, K4AVQ, operating as P40AV in Aruba. He will be there until January the 21st. He will initially work on 10 meters if open and then work the lower bands. Suggested frequencies are: 28.500, 28.495, 21.300, 14.155, 14.205, 14.255, 7.150, 3.535-45 and 1.825 MHz. QSL via: Alan B Caplan, 14020 140th Court, Apple Valley, MN 55124-9422 USA Barry ZS1FJ and Gerald ZS1GRM are planning to be active from Botswana until Saturday January 20th. They have requested the callsign A24DX, however if this call sign is not possible they will operate as A24/homecall. Activity will be on all bands mostly SSB. operation. Suggested frequencies are 28.450, 21.270 and 14.270 MHz. QSL's via ZS1FJ

Items for inclusion Echo Ireland should be forwarded to Dave Moore EI4BZ at 021-4883555 in the evenings or at 021-4823172 during office hours. Items can be submitted to Dave by e-mail at ei4bz@eircom.net and you can fax him at 021-4823316. The deadline for submission of items for the next edition of Echo Ireland is the 12th of January.

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Items for inclusion in the Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall EI7IS at QTHR or via e-mail to ei7is@qsl.net Items can also be sent to Mark over the phone at 087-6302026. News can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both news services.

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